GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6050
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2005
GANDHI SMRITI AND DARSHAN SAMITI
Shaheen Shri Abdul Rashid

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the contribution of Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti to propagate thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi during the last three years;

(b) whether any tangible work has been done by the Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti to achieve the objectives during the said period;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the details of research work undertaken by this body on Mahatma's thoughts and philosophy during the said period?

Answer

MINISTER FOR INFORMATION & BROADCASTING AND CULTURE(SHRI S. JAIPAL REDDY)

(a) Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti runs a number of regular programmes to propagate thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi to all segments of society. In addition, the following important projects/programmes have been redesigned in the last three years for specific target groups i.e. children, youth, women, jail inmates etc.:
- Srijan − Children and Youth Centre
- Sanmati − Gandhi Smriti Literature Centre
- Gandhi Smriti Mobile Library
- Sumna − Gandhi Smriti Art Gallery
- Swaraj − Gandhi Smriti Gramodyog Kendra
- Saksham − Gandhi Smriti Tihar Ashram Kendra
- Kasturba Gandhi Kendra in Manipur, Assam, Sikkim, Tripura etc.

(b)&(c) Yes, Sir. To spread key Gandhian values of peace, non-violence, communal and social harmony in society and with an idea to make youth leadership imbibe these values, a number of events have been organized with large participation of people from India and abroad. These included:

i) Global Convention on Peace and Non-violence;
ii) National Seminar on 'Rashtriya Andolan: Hindi aur Gandhi';
iii) Development Programme in Champaran and Northeastern States;
iv) Launching three-month certificate course on Gandhi and Contemporary World in collaboration with IGNOU;
v) Multi-media exhibition on Mahatma Gandhi.

(d)To bring forth a critical evaluation of Gandhi's theories and practices in the light of the contemporary realities, a series of 20 volumes titled 'Rediscovering Gandhi' has been planned for publication. A number of work-shops have been held and an outline and common guidelines have firmed up. Authors and general editors have also been identified.